



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Kirk Rueter of Hoyleton has announced his
3 retirement from major league baseball, ending a 13-year major
4 league career; and

5 WHEREAS, During his career, he became the winningest
6 left-handed pitcher in San Francisco Giants history; he came to
7 the Giants from the Montreal Expos in a 1996 trade; he had
8 joined the Expos in 1993, beginning his major league career
9 with an impressive 8-0 mark that was the best to start a career
10 since 1904; and

11 WHEREAS, Over 13 seasons with the Expos and Giants he went
12 130-92 with a 4.27 ERA and became the first Giants lefty since
13 Carl Hubbell to win at least ten games in seven consecutive
14 seasons; he had a 13-6 record with a 3.45 ERA for the NL West
15 champion Giants in 1997; he finished a career-best 16-9 in
16 1998; and he went 13-8 with a 3.23 ERA for the 2002 pennant
17 winners, including a victory over St. Louis in the National
18 League Championship Series; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Rueter, known in the clubhouse as "Woody",
20 finished his career with no major injuries and 38 games over
21 .500; he had pinpoint control over the ball and a fearlessness
22 that impressed teammates and opponents; the Giants will host a
23 day in his honor at a game this season; and

24 WHEREAS, He played American Legion baseball for George M.
25 Nelms Post 446 of Centralia and helped the team reach the State
26 tournament in 1988 after being Most Valuable Player of the
27 Fifth Division Tourney; he pitched for Murray State University
28 and was drafted after his junior year in the 18th round,
29 following a season with a record of 11-2; and

30 WHEREAS, He is a 1988 graduate of Nashville Community High

1 School in Nashville, Illinois; during his retirement, he plans
2 to focus on his wife, Karla, and his daughters, Hope and Halle;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we congratulate Kirk Rueter on the occasion of his retirement,
7 and we honor him for a stellar career in major league baseball;
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to him as an expression of our esteem.